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September 15, 1999

President Bill Clinton The White **House** Office 1600 **Pennsylvania** Avenue Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton,

I need your help, In **September 1996**, the U.S. harvested its first genetically engineered crops. These foods are not **labeled** and have never been tested for long-term safety, yet **there are** now over 40 genetically engineered organisms on the market. This impacts over 30% of our **corn** and soybean crops and over 60% of our **processe**d foods.

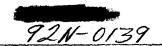
And that's just in the U.S. Government **leaders**, scientists, food industry members and consumers are objecting worldwide. It is indefensible that my government refuses to **allow** other nations the right to choose not to import **these** foods. As a **country** that stands up for human rights around the world, we must support the right of people everywhere to vote "No" on this issue. This behavior diminishes us all and brings shame to our nation.

I don't want to eat genetically engineered **foods** or processed foods containing genetically engineered products. I don't want to feed them to my family. Not only are there potential health risks for us as individual consumers, there are enough warning signs of these organisms' potential danger to our ecosystem to warrant an immediate moratorium on genetically engineered crops, in my opinion.

I find it outrageous that my government refuses to support proper safety testing, TRUTHFUL LABELING, and thorough and appropriate risk assessment protocols. When qualified scientists disagree, the U.S. government has no scientific grounds for claiming unilaterally that these foods are safe. So please don't send me a form letter stating that the FDA believes they are safe. It will not do.

As an American, I ask that the Clinton administration:

- Return my right to make informed choices in the market place;
- Require the mandatory labeling of all GE foods;
- Establish an immediate **5-year** moratorium on the release of genetically engineered organisms.



During this time I ask that you create an independent review board to:

- Scientifically assess the hazards of genetically engineered organisms (GEOs) to human health and the environment;
- Evaluate the cultural, economic and ethical impacts of the technology;
- Structure a program and set of procedures to evaluate every individual GEO before it is approved for commercial distribution on any level.

This board must have:

- Scientists and consumers, none of whom stand to benefit in any way from the promotion of this technology;
- Legal authority to prohibit the marketing, sales and planting of any and all GEOs'
- Authority to create policies for small-scale field trials of GEOs.

Mr. President, as a Democrat, you are known for supporting the rights of the **little** people. But you have aligned yourself with the big guys on this one and **left** the rest of us out of your thinking and without your protection. I urge you to remember your responsibility to the American people and serve us now. And if you find the pressure from the industry too much to bear, please just be a father and safeguard the food supply and secure the genetic heritage of the earth for your family.

Very respectfully yours,

Sherrill Wilson

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